amended to conform with U.S. practice. New Fig. 2 has been added to illustrate a second embodiment of the invention as claimed.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary

Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: February 27, 2001

By:

Elizabeth M. Burke

Reg. No. 38,758

A tree land H H " then her of him then them them them them them them

= +

[]

Ann Basil d' Beth.

LAW OFFICES
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,
FARABOW, CARRETT,
& DUNNER, L. L. P.
1300 I STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005
202-408-4000